

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 27353 01 OF 02 161613Z

51

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 OIC-02

ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-02 PA-02 PRS-01 H-02 OES-05

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R 161701Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4302

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 27353

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS ON CULTURAL SECTION
(DOCUMENT 18 C/5)

1. INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR PROMOTION OF CULTURE
(18 C/87RECOMMENDED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD 95TH SESSION)
STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY MANY DELEGATIONS. TOGO DEL
CALLED FOR VOTE BY ACCLAMATION, AND CHAIRMAN DECLARED
FUND ACCEPTED BY ACCLAMATION BEFORE DELEGATES COULD
RESPOND TO TOGOLESE MOTION. US DEL IMMEDIATELY
THEREAFTER ASKED FOR RIGHT TO EXPLAIN, STATING THAT IF
VOTE HAD BEEN TAKEN, US WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED ON GROUNDS
THAT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF FUND WERE NOT SUFFICIENTLY
CLEAR AND THAT FAVORABLE VOTE ON OUR PART MIGHT BE
INTERPRETED BY OTHERS AS A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT ON PART
OF US GOVERNMENT WHICH WE ARE UNABLE TO MAKE. SEVERAL
OTHER COUNTRIES MADE SIMILAR EXPLANATIONS. THERE THEN
FOLLOWED A LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF CHAIRMAN'S DECISION
TO DECLARE FUND ACCEPTED BY ACCLAMATION. FOLLOWING THIS
DISCUSSION, ITEM WAS FINALLY VOTED UPON 68 FOR, NONE
AGAINST AND 11 ABSTENTIONS (U.S., U.K., SWEDEN, THAILAND,
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 PARIS 27353 01 OF 02 161613Z

EGYPT, AUSTRALIA, POLAND, NEW ZEALAND, UKRAINE, AND

CZECHOSLOVAKIA). FUND IS TO BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN UNESCO AND \$84,000 ARE TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE REGULAR BUDGET FOR THIS PURPOSE.

2. RE INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON EXCHANGE OF ORIGINAL OBJECTS (DOCUMENT L8 C/29 GC VOTED FOR CONVENTION (55-0 L5-US AND WEO COUNTRIES). DISCUSSION WAS HIGHLY CHARGED WITH PLEAS FROM MANY AFRICAN COUNTRIES FOR RETURN OF CULTURAL OBJECTS TAKEN FROM THEIR COUNTRIES DURING PERIODS OF OCCUPATION AND COLONIALIZATION.

3. RE INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC SITES AND QUARTERS (DOCUMENT 18 C/30) WHICH US DEL SPOKE FAVORABLY DURING INTERVENTION' GC VOTED IN FAVOR OF RECOMMENDATION 71-0 (US)-1.

4. RE INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON DEMOCRATIC ACCESS TO CULTURE (DOCUMENT 18 C/31), GC VOTED IN FAVOR OF RECOMMENDATION 64-5 (US, CANADA) -15. DISCUSSION, IN WHICH 20 DELEGATES TOOK PART, SHOWED AGREEMENT ON IMPORTANCE OF SUBJECT, BUT CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ON EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATION. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING USDEL QUESTIONS WHETHER RECOMMENDATION (WHICH WAS VIGOROUSLY SUPPORTED BY USSR AND EE COUNTRIES) SHOULD BE PREPARED AT ALL. THIS ITEM REQUIRES FURTHER FOLLOW-UP WITH UNESCO SECRETARIAT.

5. RE WORLD HERITAGE TRUST CONVENTION, ECUADOR, TUNISIA AND YUGOSLAVIA ANNOUNCED THEIR GOVERNMENTS DECISION TO RATIFY CONVENTION. THIS NOW BRINGS TOTAL RATIFICATIONS TO 12 (ALGERIA, AUSTRALIA, BULGARIA, EGYPT, IRAQ, NIGERIA, SUDAN, USA AND ZAIRE) WITH JORDAN AND TANZANIA

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PAGE 01 PARIS 27353 02 OF 02 161611Z

51

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R 161701Z NOV 74
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4303

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 27353

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ANNOUNCING INTENTION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO RATIFY IN
NEAR FUTURE. FRENCH DEL INDICATED INTENTION OF HIS
GOVERNMENT TO ACCEDE TO CONVENTION.

6. US DEL ANNOUNCED CONTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL ONE
MILLION DOLLARS AT OUTSET OF C/5 DISCUSSION ON CULTURAL
PRESERVATION SECTION. EGYPT AND MANY MIDDLE EAST AND
AFRICAN DELS AS WELL AS FORMER DG MAHEU EXPRESSED
APPRECIATION.

7. RE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO SAFEGUARD VENICE,
PRESERVATION DIRECTOR BOLLA UNDERSCORED TRUE PARTNER-
SHIP BETWEEN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND UNESCO BUT DEPLORED
LACK OF ACTION BY ITALIAN GOVT STATING THAT 18 MONTHS
HAD ELAPSED SINCE PASSAGE OF SPECIAL LAW BY ITALIAN
PARLIAMENT TO PROTECT VENICE. HE NOTED THAT ITALIAN
MIN OF EDUCATION HAD ASSURED GENERAL CONFERENCE THAT
NEW ITALIAN GOVT WOULD ADOPT DIRECTIVES TO IMPLEMENT
PROVISIONS OF SPECIAL LAW. DELEGATES EXPRESSED GENERAL
FEELING OF DISPAIR AT LACK OF ACTION.

8. COMMISSION THREE APPROVED INITIATIVE BY DG MAHEU TO
APPOINT AN ADVISER TO CYPRUS TO (A) PROTECT CULTURAL
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PAGE 02 PARIS 27353 02 OF 02 161611Z

HERITAGE FROM FURTHER THREATS; (B) TO STEP UP SURVEIL-
LANCE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, AND (C) TO PREVENT
ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF WORKS OF ART.

9. RE CATEGORY II MEETING ON HISTORIC SITES AND MONU-
MENTS, US DEL EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST WITHOUT EXTEN-
DING OFFER TO HOST MEETING IN US PER DEPARTMENTAL
INSTRUCTIONS. UNESCO SECRETARIAT INFORMS US IT
WISHES HOLD MEETING IN US, AND IS PRESENTLY PREPARING
LIST OF REQUIREMENTS WHICH WILL BE AIRPOUCHED DEPT
SHORTLY.

10. GENERAL CONFERENCE ADOPTED DR 229 BY NEPAL
AUTHORIZING DG TO INCLUDE PROJECT FOR PRESERVATION OF
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE OF KATMANDU VALLEY AMONG

ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH HE WILL ENDEAVOUR MOBILIZE AND
ORGANIZE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. VOTE WAS 65
FOR, NONE AGAINST, AND 10 (US) ABSTENTIONS.
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